

Agents for the Evening Star out of Wash- ington.

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SPIRIT OF THE MORNING PRESS.

The *Intelligencer* thus notices the election of Senator Jesse D. Bright, to be President of the Senate, *pro tem*:

"The honorable Jesse D. Bright, of Indiana, was yesterday elected President of the Senate of the United States by a very large vote—indeed without any serious apparent opposition. While so decided a choice was undoubtedly very flattering to the honorable Senator, the honor could hardly have been more worthily conferred, certainly not upon any one of the body better qualified by experience, ability, or that high estimation with his brother Senators, so important in giving weight to the decisions of the Chair."

The *Union* goes into ecstasies not only over the message, but also over the very favorable notice which the *Intelligencer* yesterday contained of it. The editor regards the movement of Mr. Taylor, of Tennessee, of which we yesterday informed our readers, as the first gun of Know Nothingism in Congress. He says of Mr. Taylor and his movement:

"Mr. Taylor is one of the few southern men who voted at the last session against the Kansas and Nebraska bill. He is a Whig and a Methodist preacher. He represents a district which probably has in it fewer foreigners and Roman Catholics than any other in the whole Union. These are significant facts, which will excite observation when it is seen that the Know Nothing movement in Congress proceeds from a member with such antecedents and such a constituency."

DR. BEALE IN NEW YORK.—The New York papers, of yesterday, contain a report of the proceedings of the dentists of that city, in relation to the imprisonment of Dr. Beale. They believe him innocent of the crime of which he has been convicted, and give many facts which will create doubt about the justice of his punishment where no doubt existed before. The following dentists gave their several experiences of anæsthetic agencies in surgical cases: Drs. Allen, Ambler, Burras, Barlow, Burdell, Crane, Castle, Crowell, Dillingham, Dunning, Hazlett, Peck, S. W. Parmele, Putnam, Robins, Mr. Williams.

We have already stated that Dr. Townsend, of Sarsaparilla fame, is building a house after the fashion of the Duke of Parma's residence, in New York city, worth \$200,000. It should be remembered that it is not the peculiar virtue of Dr. T.'s Sarsaparilla that has got him the immense custom that has given him his great fortune. Other Sarsaparillas are equally as good. It was the judicial and liberal manner in which he advertised, that won for the Doctor both fame and fortune. "A hint to the wise is sufficient."

We are informed that the *Union* newspaper, of this city, was prepared to furnish extras, containing the President's message, for circulation instantly after its opening in Congress, to all who applied for them, and that no one who applied in time was refused.

The amount of the levy for taxes in New York city this year was \$4,541,255.54, of which there has been paid to the city chamberlain, from the 1st of September up to the 1st of December, the sum of \$3,439,867, leaving unpaid \$1,501,388.52, which is subject to the one per cent. addition.

IMPERFECT NATURALIZATION.—A decision just rendered by the United States Circuit Court at Boston has disfranchised two thousand alien voters, in consequence of the defective organization of the Police Court by which their papers were issued. The Court is a Know Nothing.

The Virginia Messenger, at Staunton, advocates, warmly, a suspension of specie payments by the banks of the State.

CENTRAL AMERICA.—The Greytown people have appointed an agent to go to Washington and prosecute their claims for indemnity.

The revenue of the Island of Cuba for the past month has increased \$46,827 over that of the same period last year.

PERSONAL.

Mrs. Macready is reading Shakespeare with great success at the North.

Hon. Thomas H. Benton lectured last evening before a large audience, in the hall of the Baltimore, Maryland, Mechanics' Institute.

It now seems to be settled, that if all the defective ballots for Seymour and Clarke were counted, Clark would still have a majority of 150. The footings also show that had all the Bronson votes been given to Ullman, he would have been behind both Seymour and Clark.

The Iowa City Reporter and Keosauqua Union, two Nebraska sheets, deny the statement that the seat of Augustus Hall, who has obtained the certificate of election for Congress from the 1st District, is to be contested.

Miss J. M. Davenport is playing to crowded houses in New York city.

Hon. R. M. McLane, our minister to China, issued a proclamation dated Canton, September 11, in which he declares, "that the ships of war of the United States of America, now stationed in the Canton river, are there for the sole object of protecting the trade and property of American citizens, and that any assault upon them, or any interference with their just rights as secured by treaty, come from whatever quarter, will be summarily chastised."

The prospects, it is said, are that Kenneth Rayner, of North Carolina, will be the Know Nothing candidate for the Presidency. He figured lately at Cincinnati. A Know Nothing paper has been established in New York to advocate the claims of Gen. Houston, who is also supported by the New York Sun as an independent candidate.

Fifty-three slaves freed by the will of the late Dr. Charles Everett, of Virginia, have just left Petersburg, Va., for Pennsylvania, where they are to be located with an outfit valued at \$1,500 for each.

Col. B. F. Dill, editor of the Memphis Appeal, and delegate from that city to urge the Congress the acceptance and re-establishment of the Memphis Navy Yard, is now in this city.

WASHINGTON NEWS AND GOSSIP.

BENEVOLENCE.—If James Gordon Bennett—a name which is a by word and a reproach among all honorable men—is to be believed, Briarion, with his hundred hands, was a pigmy to John W. Forney. According to the evil genius, who presides over the *Herald*, Mr. Forney is not only the head and front of the "Kitchen Cabinet," Clerk of the House of Representatives, editor of the *Pennsylvanian* and *Union*, the ruling spirit of the spoils' cliques in and about Washington, and the instigator of everything that is wicked connected with the Pierce Administration; but he is, also, editor and owner of the *Evening Star*! In the *Herald* of Sunday last, Bennett indirectly asserts that our merited rebuke of him, and defence of Mr. Forney, was written by that gentleman, who, according to Bennett, is editor and owner of this journal. How absurd! How supremely ridiculous! The business and editorial of the *Star* is conducted wholly by its two conductors, whose names are at the head of the paper, and who, we repeat for the hundredth time, own and control it exclusively. We defy Bennett to prove that we have ever received a sixpence from John W. Forney, or any one else in his behalf, or that any one beside Wallace & Hope have anything to do with editing it, or in any way interested in the publication of this journal.

Bennett says, in reference to his malignant perversion of the contents of Mr. Buchanan's letter to Forney, "Let Forney publish it; it is not true, and put us to shame." Put Bennett to shame! Does any sane man think that the thing is possible? Why, what will shame Bennett, will make any honest man flee his country? Look at his hide, scarred from head to toe by the cowhides of the men he has fouly maligned. Read the history of his ejection from public tables and the opera house in New York, from the office of the Philadelphia *Pennsylvanian* for his attempt to sell the columns of that paper. Read Daniel O'Connell's rebuke of this moral leper for traducing the character of his dead wife, and learn how, during his late visit to Europe, he was ejected from every respectable circle into which he attempted to obtrude his detested presence, notwithstanding his offers to lend the influence of the paper he prints to those he attempted to approach. Learn, also, the facts about Bennett and his affairs, of the most revolting character, current in the Parisian cafes, and then tell us whether this man knows what shame is! Bennett is a stranger to shame—such a feeling never had a place in his breast. He daily publishes the most atrocious falsehoods, and when convicted of them, invariably fails to retract, or to make amends for the injuries he has endeavored to inflict. Witness the case of Mr. Belmont, against whom he made the most positive charges, which have since been proven to have been without the least foundation in truth; yet Bennett persists in these falsehoods. As well might the head of the fabled hydra be destroyed as Bennett's falsehoods—kill one, and another springs up in its place.

We are daily looking for an exposure of Bennett's matters in Paris, by Mr. Revell, his late Paris correspondent, which, we suppose, he will also attribute to the pen of Mr. Forney. *Nous verrons*.

The Ostend Affair.—We have more than once taken occasion to say that the fuss made in the newspapers over the meeting of four or five gentlemen connected with American legations abroad, at Ostend, in the course of the past summer, was the silliest nonsense ever got up by the press by way of feeding the popular appetite for wonders. The *Star* has earned a reputation for being sure to get at the gist of everything of the sort—for never misleading its readers, on a matter connected with our foreign affairs especially; and as we have previously published the upshot of our labors in connection with the history of the mis-called Ostend Congress is, simply, that there was nothing in the wide world in it. In view of this fact, to find the House of Representatives of the United States busily and gravely puzzling their noddles over it, is fun enough, for one day at least. It embraces a capital illustration, indeed, of the propensity of our countrymen in public life to *seem* to have the care of everything on their shoulders. To us the amusing debate of yesterday sounded very much as though the prevailing doctrine at this time is, that our fathers made a mistake in dividing the duties and responsibilities of conducting the government of the United States into three branches—executive, legislative, and judicial—intending to have devolved on Congress the task of superintending in detail all the movements of our diplomatic agents abroad—all—down to the very regulation of the qualities of the cigars they smoke, the cogniac and champagne they drink, and where they shall go to get the very best oysters on the Continent (for which, by the by, Ostend has been most famous for centuries). We know no other gentlemen more critical in their taste for fine oysters than Messrs. Mason, Sickles, and Sanders, while Mr. Buchanan's burly figure, and countenance, are sadly deceptive, if he, too, has not a connoisseur's perceptions of the luxury of these delicious bivalves.

We trust that the inquiry may be pushed, in the firm belief that the reply to it will illustrate to the country the point of ridiculousness to which the prevailing taste of the day is urging those who were originally designed to our law makers.

The Minnesota Railroad.—We learn that the company chartered by the Legislature of Minnesota, at its last session, commenced the survey of the road from the southern boundary of the Territory to its eastern boundary, in the direction of Lake Superior, upon the route designated by an act of Congress making a grant of land for that purpose, but which was subsequently repealed by Congress. The district attorney for the Territory of Minnesota commenced an action in the name of the United States for trespass. The company acknowledged the trespass, but set up the grant. The attorney filed the repeal, and the judge decreed that the repeal was illegal. The case will soon be before the Supreme Court.

The company are said to claim that on the instant that Congress vested in the territorial authorities the proprietorship of the lands donated, they became theirs—the territorial Legislature having donated to them, in advance, any lands that they might receive from Congress for railroad purposes. Their point is, that once having donated the lands, Congress cannot recall the gift, though the right to it was obtained only by interpolating the bill.

As barefaced as the act was on the part of those who indirectly procured it to be done, we have no idea that that company can now ever secure for themselves the lands in question, however desirable it may be to connect

the waters of the Atlantic and the Gulf of Mexico at their highest navigable points, by the route proposed for this Minnesota railroad.

Though all, doubtless, wish to see the road constructed, it cannot be that in the face of the action of Congress in repealing the bill in question, the highest court under the Government will interpret the law so as to secure to the New York company the lands involved in the issue.

Railroad Iron.—The action of the House, yesterday, in promptly tabling the proposition looking either to a repeal or extension of time for the payment of duties on railroad iron by a very decided vote, shows that the present Congress are by no means disposed to grant more favors to railroad incorporations. The fact that not one in twenty of those with which the Government has had mail contract dealings has failed to screw the last dime possible out of the National Treasury, accounts for much of the prevalent hostility to the idea of granting them favors at the expense of other American interests. In former times that was done at a total cost of some seven millions, we believe, to the Treasury. It has made few of them disposed to carry the mails for a penny less than they can screw out of the Government, and in the vote to which we refer above, the House seems not to forget this fact.

Special or class legislation is to be avoided. It was thought that we were to have much of it this winter. This vote, however, foreshadows a different predilection on the part of the majority. The railroad interests which are to press this proposition must make a tremendous showing of right and justice to overcome the state of feeling with reference to them in the House as already manifested, or we are greatly mistaken.

The Reports.—We commence to-day to spread before the *Star's* readers, abstracts of the important facts embraced in the various reports to the Heads of Departments and bureaus. We have condensed the contents of these important state papers as much as possible, so as to bring them within the reading time of thousands of the *Star's* patrons who are without sufficient leisure to enable them to wade through long documents. All that we publish concerning them is of great public importance, and therefore of interest to all in the community who would faithfully discharge their duty of American citizenship—the obligation to keep well informed concerning the action of the Government, to enable the voter to discharge his duty intelligently.

Expenses in Taking Testimony in the Case of the Loss of Government Property.—In cases where public property has unavoidably been lost without fault on the part of the officer responsible for it, and proof has been required by one or more depositions, under the act of May 18, 1826, section 3, or for the satisfaction of the accounting officers, the expense of the magistrate's fees, &c., may be allowed to the officer in the settlement of his accounts, if the evidence be such as to warrant the admission of the lost property to his credit; but no such expense will be allowed if the public property has been lost through any neglect or fault of the officer responsible for it.

The Rape of the Report.—We hear that a thorough investigation which has been had in the matter, by the Treasury Department, proves conclusively that the Secretary's report did not get out prematurely from that quarter. It was not finally drawn up until Thursday morning last, and was immediately carried by the transcriber to the public printing office, where it was duly deposited with the injunction of secrecy, then for the first time leaving his hands. On Friday, the proofs were sent to the Department, all of which were duly returned on being promptly corrected. So there was no earthly opportunity for any one about the Department to have furnished the abstracted copies or copy for the northern press. Under the circumstances, the thing was physically impossible, it seems to us.

General Simon Cameron.—On further inquiry, we find that we were somewhat mistaken, yesterday, in giving out the impression that General Cameron had buried the hatchet with his ancient Democratic foes in Pennsylvania.

On more careful inquiry we have now reason to believe that the former relations between these parties as yet remain unchanged, though hopes are certainly entertained, by the peacefully inclined on either side of this Democratic feud, that the hatchet will soon be buried.

Work Done at the General Land Office. The work completed at the General Land Office for the last four weeks, ending December 2, is as follows: Letters received, briefed and registered, 1,808 Letters written and recorded, 1,569 do do occupying pages, folio record, 1,038 Cash patents written, 4,981 Military do do, 5,744 Cash patents recorded, 4,521 Military do do, 3,929 Cash patents examined and compared with record, 4,956 Military do do, 5,554 Acres of Virginia revenue bounty land scrip issued, 4,976

Death of an Army Officer.—News reached Washington last night of the death of Major Allen Loud, first artillery, United States Army, who died at St. Augustine, Florida, very recently. He was breveted for gallant service at Fort Brown, on the 9th of May, 1846, in the Mexican war.

The Current Operations of the Treasury Department.—On yesterday, the 6th of Dec, there were of Treasury Warrants entered on the books of the Department: For the redemption of stock, \$17,538 86 For paying other Treasury debts, 69,290 89 For the Customs, 10,262 00 For covering into the Treasury per act of January 28, 1847, 400 00 For the War Department, 43,075 35 For paying in the War Department, 3,075 35 For repaying in the Navy Department, 6,956 76 For the Interior Department, 16,740 07

CONGRESSIONAL.

In the Senate, yesterday, after we went to press, Mr. Bright was duly elected President of the body *pro tem*, by the following vote, viz:

Whole vote, 35; necessary to a choice, 18. For Mr. Bright, 24 For Mr. Dawson, 2 For Mr. Chase, 6 For Mr. Foot, 2 For Mr. Badger, 1

Nominations were then given of local bills to be introduced, petitions were presented, and resolutions submitted, after which the Senate adjourned.

In the House, resolutions were called for, and offered and discussed. Among them was one by Mr. Phillips to instruct the Ways

and Means Committee to report a bill reducing the duties on railroad iron, or allowing a credit thereon; laid on the table.

By Mr. Rogers, for the correspondence between Spain and this Government on the Lopez affair; laid over one day.

By Mr. Latham, a bill to extend the time of the existence of the Board of California Land Commissioners.

On concluding the reception of resolutions, the House proceeded to consider the pending resolution of Mr. Sellers, calling for a report relative to the late meeting of (so called) conference of American Ministers at Ostend. This resolution was debated at length by Messrs. Sellers, Bayly of Virginia, Wentworth of Illinois, McMillen, Washburn of Maine, Hillyer, Phillips, Letcher, Campbell, Gillingham, Witte, and Taylor of Ohio.

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The subject was laid over until Monday next. Mr. Adams introduced a bill to regulate the naturalization laws, and repeal all existing laws thereon.

A bill was passed for the relief of Enoch S. Moore; soon after which the Senate adjourned.

In the House, the first business transacted was ordering the printing of 15,000 extra copies of the Secretary of the Treasury's annual report.

Then then took up the pending resolution of Mr. Sellers calling for a report relative to the conference of American Ministers at Ostend, and whether it was convened in obedience to instructions from the American State Department.

Mr. Chastain moved to lay it on the table; not agreed to—yeas 72, nays 90.

Mr. Skelton moved the reconsideration of the vote by which the House refused to commit the resolution to the Foreign Affairs Committee.

Mr. Washburne, of Illinois, moved to lay that motion on the table; on which the yeas and nays being ordered, it was not laid on the table; yeas 84, nays 89.

The question was then put by yeas and nays on Mr. Skelton's motion to reconsider; which was agreed to; yeas 94, nays 83.

BALTIMORE CORRESPONDENCE.

The Railroad Director Mistake.—That Omnibus Correction—Appointment—Rejoice—Death—Crowning the Telegraph—Telegraphic Feat—A Trick—Weather.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 5—P. m. The mistake of the City Council in electing the wrong man as director in the Northern Central Railway Company has produced considerable fun. Mr. Mason, senior, still holds on to his office; took his seat in the board today, and duly entered upon business.

The son, thus chizzled out of his just dues, takes the thing good-humoredly and with philosophic composure. That unfortunate mistake which led to the mistake has been quite an object of notoriety. It was seen passing up and down street to-day quite a number of times. The initial "C" and the terminus "Senior" have, since yesterday, been rather defaced, some roughish fellow having plastered them over, so as to leave the plain name of Richard Mason.

The mistake was done probably with a view of correcting the error, so as to have an excuse for annulling the proceeding. All won't do. The old gentleman is fixed and duly acknowledges the compliment. It is said, in order to guard against similar blunders in future, an ordinance will be passed repudiating all resolutions hereafter proposed which may have any traceable connection with omnibus literature. Mayor Hinks is of opinion that to encourage such principles might seriously retard the needs of the municipal government.

I stated in a despatch to-day that the Hon. John P. Kennedy had been elected President, and Mr. Adreon, Superintendent, of the Northern Central Railroad Company. This is not quite correct. The gentlemen named have been nominated, but not yet elected. It is certain, however, that they will be.

I learn that the city Councils have rejected one of Mayor Hink's nominations, a lieutenant of the water works, who had been appointed, some spurious blood was put upon his veins. The matter has created considerable talk. Perfect harmony is not an element of Know Nothingism.

Information has been received here of the death of Mr. James Pannell, an old, wealthy, and well known citizen of Harford county, Md. He was elected in the capacity of judge. The telegraph line has been so lumbered with long dispatches of congressional matters, that they exclude all else between the hours of 1 and 3, p. m. This accounts for your not getting the New York markets, and one or two other matters, that were yesterday delayed beyond the time. The managers of the line should bear in mind that fair play is a jewel.

An enterprise of the New Orleans Ploxyune in publishing a gazette, by telegraph, of the President's message, on the day that delivery in Washington, is much commended. This was done, too, despite the trickery of a certain party, who endeavored to deceive those having charge of the matter.

It is intensely cold here, and has the appearance of snow.

LETTER FROM REV. THOMAS MYERS.

TO THE EDITORS OF THE EVENING STAR.

BALTIMORE, Md., Dec. 2, 1854.

Messrs. Editors:—In your paper of last Wednesday, a correspondent has noticed a sermon preached on Thanksgiving day, in this city. His information was doubtless had from one of Madam Rumor's thousand tongues, and by the time it reached him, had lost nothing of its original truthfulness. I was not notified by two items, which, in justice to you, you will not refuse to do. First, your correspondent says, "During its delivery quite an exultant took place in the congregation; some rose from their seats, and pronounced what had been preached to them basely false, and departed from the sacred temple in disgust. Others followed suit, until the reverend speaker was left not much more than empty pews for an audience." This is totally false. But three persons left during service. One of these subsequently assured me that he had an engagement, and feared he would be too late to meet it, and that "he subscribed to all he heard." One of the others did seem to be offended, and muttered something to himself, heard only by those very near him, left the house in quickstep time. The only open pronouncement, was one of approval in the smile which radiated the countenances of the audience. Again, he says, "His remarks were especially turned against President Pierce and his Administration, whom he castigated in unmeasured terms." This is also untrue. There was no remark made against President Pierce's Administration. The remark had exclusive reference to Bishop Hughes, and his concentration of the vote of the Roman Catholic church, and his efforts to sell it, purely to advance the interests of that hierarchy. My congregation were entirely satisfied and pleased, but, lovers of the truth, and are best judges when it is demonstrated with facts. Your correspondent also erred in saying I am a Methodist Protestant. If there was anything deserving censure in my remarks, let me and my church bear it; I am a Methodist Episcopalian. He has kindly volunteered a little advice in homiletic form. He will not take offense if I tender him the advice of Solomon, "He that answers a matter before he hears it, it is folly and shame to him."

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOMAS MYERS.

*We have heard this charge made repeatedly, but have never yet seen an effort made to substantiate it. Bishop Hughes has treated it with contempt, as though satisfied that there is no foundation for it. Our columns are open to Mr. Myers to substantiate the fact, if he can bring forward any proof of it.—Eds. Star.

ALEXANDRIA CORRESPONDENCE.

Weather.—Wind and Tide.—Body Fanned.—Court.—Religious Retreat.—Anniversary Sermon.—Amusements.

ALEXANDRIA, Dec. 6, 1854.

The cold weather of the last few days is not a whit diminished this morning; all our shallow water is thickly coated with ice, and a freezing atmosphere admonishes those abroad that winter is indeed come.

The stormy north-westers, which have prevailed for the past two days, have lowered the Potomac much below the usual low water mark, and, in consequence, seriously impeded navigation. The steamers plying between Alexandria and Washington are frequently at their wit's end by reason of shallow water, and yesterday morning the mail steamer Baltimore ran aground near Fort Washington, thus delaying the southern mail several hours.

The body of John McDevitt, brother-in-law to the unfortunate Michael Kiffin, who was drowned a few weeks since, was found at the bottom of the ferry dock on Monday evening. The body remained at bottom and was discovered at low tide. Coroner Neale held an inquest, and the jury rendered a verdict of "accidental drowning."

The County Court adjourned yesterday after a short session of little public interest. The services of the religious retreat at St. Mary's church continue morning, noon, and evening, and consist of the usual masses, prayers, and meditations common to the Catholic Church at such times. On Monday evening the retreat was occupied by Rev. Mr. Doyle of Washington, and last night Rev. J. P. Donelan delivered, to a densely crowded congregation, an eloquent exposition of the doctrine of confession.

On the same evening the Methodist Episcopal church was crowded, to celebrate the anniversary of that excellent institution, the Young Men's Christian Association. Rev. Dr. Grant delivered an able discourse appropriate to the occasion.

Messrs. G. H. Bayne & Brother announce as will be seen by reference to your advertising columns, that they will receive the notes of Selden, Withers & Co. at *par* in purchase of boots and shoes.

Professor Lockwood announces an exhibition of dissolving views, on this and to-morrow evening, at Liberty Hall, and to-morrow afternoon a balloon ascension.

GEORGETOWN CORRESPONDENCE.

GEORGETOWN, Dec. 6, 1854.

We regret exceedingly to announce the death of Mrs. Elizabeth Harding, wife of the Rev. Mr. Harding, and daughter of the Rev. Henry Slicer, at Williamsburg, Va., on Sunday last. Her remains reached our city this morning, and were taken to the house of her father, and then conveyed to Baltimore, accompanied by her husband, father, and a number of friends of the family. The most afflictive feature of this sad bereavement is, that the family had no intimation of her sickness, until a message was received yesterday evening that her corpse was at Alexandria on the way to Georgetown. The scene at the house of Mr. Slicer, on the arrival of the corpse, can be better imagined than described. The still hour of night, all nature slumbering in silence save the hollow murmurs of the winter wind, the flowing tears of the afflicted husband, parents, and friends, constituted a scene sufficiently solemn to melt a heart of adamant. She died of the croup.

A fire occurred last night, between the hours of two and four o'clock, in an out-house at Georgetown College. The building was of brick, three stories high, and was used as a tailor and shoemaker's shop. It, together with most of its contents, was entirely consumed. For some time it was thought that the main buildings of the college were in imminent danger, but the timely aid and untiring efforts of the Vigilant Fire Company prevented the flames from spreading. Although the weather at the time was very cold, most of the students of the College turned out and rendered valuable assistance in working the engine. The Vigilant boys also acquitted themselves, as usual, like men. The fire occurred in the basement, where one of the watchmen at the College usually stays, and was purely accidental.

A spiritual retreat has been going on at Trinity Church since Sunday evening last—solemn and interesting services are had each day and evening. The Rev. Dr. Stonestreet delivered, last evening, to a large and attentive congregation, a very solemn discourse. He will preach again this evening at 7 o'clock. The retreat will continue until next Sabbath. About our canal and wharves this morning, things generally look rather gloomy. A nearly an inch thick formed on the lower portions of the canal last night, and we think it more than likely that the upper portions are frozen sufficiently hard to cause a suspension of navigation. Most of our mills also have been compelled, in consequence of the severity of the weather, to suspend operations.

We learn from the fishermen who arrived yesterday morning, that snow fell in the neighborhood of Goose Creek, on Sunday last, to the depth of three inches.

The temperance meeting at Society Hall, last night, was of a highly interesting character. Very impressive addresses were made by Dr. Clayton, the Rev. Mr. Steele, and Mr. Thompson.

We have no change in the price of flour or grain. Holders of each are rather more firm. The weather continues pinching cold.

SPECTATOR.

PAPERS TO BE RETURNED.—The ship John Eliot Thayer, which sailed to-day for Liverpool, takes back about 150 papers: from the different institutions in the State. Nine of these were brought up from Deer Island yesterday, and are in a twenty-eight that have been sent to be returned.

The others return of their own free will. One of those who go back is an old man who has been in this country for thirty-six years, and who has raised a family and buried them all in America, and whose desire is now to return that his bones may rest with those of his fathers. Yesterday, one of the number endeavored to incite a disturbance among the storekeepers of the city, and the police force which was on the spot prevented any outbreak.—*Boston Trav.*, Wednesday.

WASHINGTON, December 6th, 1854.

Col. W. Hickey writes: At a meeting of the Washington High School, held at their Army No. 13th, the following Resolutions were passed:

Resolved, That the thanks of this corps are due to Colonel W. H. Hickey, for the interest he has taken in their welfare, and in promoting the interests of this Company in procuring their Arms, and also the Commissions of its officers. Resolved, That the thanks of this corps are due to Lt. C. F. Jones, and G. W. Ford, for the information in which he will ever be held by the Washington Highlanders. Respectfully,

Attest: WM. FORTYTH, Sec'y.

THE AMERICAN RIFLES have the pleasure of announcing that they will sell a Grand Dress Ball at Odd Fellows' Hall, Navy Yard, on the 8th January, 1855.

Patrons in future advertisement.